

# Total Joint Replacement Episode

## Executive Summary

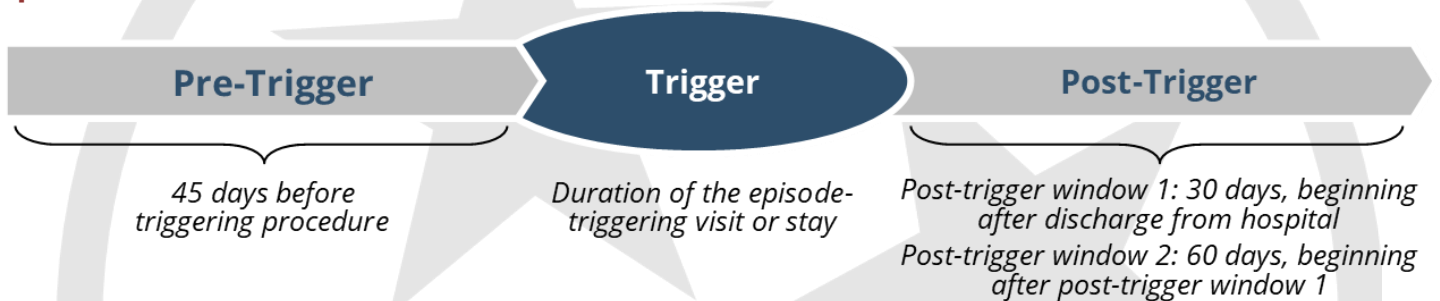
### Episode Design

- **Trigger:** joint replacement procedure
- **Quarterback type:** professional (orthopedic surgeon who performs the procedure)
- **Care included:** all care related to the total joint replacement, including imaging and testing, surgical and medical procedures, physical therapy, and medications

### Sources of Value

- Reduce unnecessary or duplicate imaging
- Use more cost-efficient facilities
- Reduce implant costs and optimize inpatient length of stay
- Ensure optimal recovery/rehab treatment
- Minimize readmissions and complications

### Episode Duration



### Quality Metrics

#### Tied to Gain-Sharing

- Admission within post-trigger window 1 (lower rate is better)

#### Informational Only

- Post-operative deep vein thrombosis (DVT)/pulmonary embolism (PE) within post-trigger window 1
- Post-operative wound infections
- Dislocations or fractures
- Average length of stay
- Difference in average morphine equivalent dose (MED) per day

### Making Fair Comparisons

#### Exclusions

- Business exclusions: inconsistent enrollment, third-party liability, dual eligibility, FQHC/RHC, no PAP ID, incomplete episodes, overlapping episodes
- Clinical exclusions: different care pathway (e.g., bilateral procedures, blood clotting disorders such as hemophilia, end stage renal disease (ESRD), fractures & trauma, HIV, multiple sclerosis, pregnancy, active cancer management, DCS custody)
- Patient exclusions: age (greater than 64 years old), death, left against medical advice
- High-cost outlier: episodes with risk-adjusted spend greater than three standard deviations above the average risk-adjusted episode spend for valid episodes are excluded.

**Risk adjustment** is used to ensure appropriate comparisons between patients.

To learn more about the episode's design, please reference the Detailed Business Requirements (DBR) and Configuration File on our website at <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/health-care-innovation/episodes-of-care/searchable-episodes-table.html>.